

*TOWNSHIP OF GROSSE ILE
ANNUAL REPORT
FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011
AND
TOWNSHIP BUDGET
FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012*

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Annual Report

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2011– 2012 BUDGET DOCUMENT FOLLOWS THE ANNUAL REPORT

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Township Hall
9601 Groh Road
www.grosseile.com

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Police and Fire Services
Public Safety Building
24525 Meridian

~

Public Services Department
9601 Groh and 8555 Groh Road

~

Community Recreation Department
and
Water's Edge Municipal Pool & Golf Course
25215 West River Road

~

Animal Shelter
Centennial Farm and Equestrian Center
25797 Third Street

~

Grosse Ile Municipal Airfield and Commerce Park
9601 Groh Road

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Grosse Ile Tennis Center
9251 Groh Road
P.O. Box 129

websites

www.grosseileairport.com
www.grosseile.com

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Supervisor Brian Loftus ~ November, 2008 - 2012
bloftus4gi@yahoo.com

Clerk Ute O'Connor ~ July, 1997 - 2012
UteO@grosseile.com

Treasurer Theodore Van Os ~ November, 2008 - 2012
tedv@grosseile.com

Trustee James A. Johnson, Jr. ~ November, 2008 - 2012
gitrusteejohnson@aol.com

Trustee Peter Kantz ~ November, 2008 - 2012
peterkantz@sbcglobal.net

Trustee Erik W. Ranka ~ November, 2008 - 2012
eranka4gi@yahoo.com

Trustee Pamela A. Frucci ~ November, 2008 - 2012
jpfrucci@yahoo.com

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Administration ~ Township Manager

Dale L. Reaume

March, 2001- Present

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***Township Hall Managers***

Ann Darznick .....Finance Director

Ted Fournier..... Cable Administrator

Sharon Gray ..... Clerk’s Office Manager

Barry Sedlock.....Department of Public Services

Lorinda Beneteau..... DPS Administrative Manager

Derek Thiel ..... Airfield/Commerce Park Manager

~~~~~

Recreation/Water’s Edge

Timothy RooneyRecreation Director

~~~~~

***Public Safety***

Duncan Murdock ..... Fire Chief

Joseph Porcarelli ..... Police Chief

**Administration/Assessing:**

Carol Knopp . . . . .Administrative Assistant/ Deputy Assessor  
 Timothy O'Donnell . . . . .Assessor

**Airport/Commerce Park:**

James Farrell . . . . . Airport Maintenance

**Building and Zoning:**

Tony Gray . . . . .Ordinance Enforcement & Zoning  
 Lorrie Zalewski . . . . .Zoning Officer/Permit Coordinator  
 Charles Earl . . . . .Plumbing Inspector  
 David Rutkowski . . . . .Electrical/Mechanical Inspector  
 Tim Thompson . . . . .Building Inspector

**Clerk's Office:**

Bryan Friel . . . . .Elections & Records Assistant  
 Gayle Haeger . . . . .Seasonal Clerk's Staff

**Department of Public Services:**

Dona Depa . . . . . Water Dept. Secretary  
 Gerald Dionne . . . . . DPS Maintenance  
 Janice Huber . . . . .DPS Billing Clerk  
 Gary Jones . . . . . DPS Maintenance  
 John Keim . . . . .DPS Maintenance

**Finance Department:**

Caryn Johnson . . . . . Payables/Benefits, Airport Secretary  
 Annette Wurtsmith . . . . .Finance Assistant/Deputy Treasurer

**Treasurer's Office:**

Barbara McMahon . . . . . Cashier

**Recreation & Water's Edge:**

Annette Lessenberry . . . . . Recreation Enrichment Coordinator  
 Kathleen Nachtrab . . . . . Water's Edge/Recreation Coordinator  
 Margaret Nash . . . . . Seasonal Support Staff  
 Brian Payette . . . . . Part-time Recreation Support Staff  
 Susan Pociask . . . . .Part-time Recreation Support Staff  
 Mark Tissot . . . . . Water's Edge Maintenance

**2010 GROSSE ILE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Joseph S. Porcarelli  
Deputy Chief John P. Szczepaniak

Lt. Robert J. Bow  
Sgt. Mark G. Warnick  
Sgt. Alan V. Valiquette  
Detective Mark J. Relich  
Detective Kenneth T. Pelland  
Ptl. Brent M. Hardin  
Ptl. John M. Ferguson  
Ptl. Daniel S. McLaughlin  
Ptl. Douglas I. Carmack  
Ptl. Todd A. Brozek  
Ptl. Eric E. Vazquez  
Ptl. Kevin R. Counts  
Ptl. Gregory P. Carrico  
Ptl. Peter E. Darznick  
Ptl. Constantine P. Siakantaris  
ACO Lora A. Schaller  
C/D Michele L. Roehrig  
C/D Marcia M. Bennett  
C/D Monica S. Lehr  
C/D Maria Celeste Alent  
C/D Marjorie A. Gape  
Adm.Sec. Ruth A. Kaledas  
Chaplain Sean Eubank

**2010 RESERVE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Reserve Chief Thomas Llewellyn  
Reserve Captain Julie Cortis

Reserve Lieutenant Jeffrey Carroll  
Reserve Sergeant Kevin Rose  
Reserve Sergeant Thomas Kootsillas  
Reserve Officer Holly Muenchow  
Reserve Officer Barry Davis  
Reserve Officer Jeremy Mollner  
Reserve Officer Chuck Grech

## 2010 GROSSE ILE FIRE DEPARTMENT ROSTER

Grayten Bellard  
Russell Bodrie ( Fire Marshal)  
John Budny  
John Camilleri  
Brad Chaszer  
Scott Clauss  
Kenny Cobb  
Chris Davenport  
Kenny Gape (Sergeant)  
Dave Hill (Deputy Chief Engineer)  
Rodney Jankowski  
Gary Jones  
Jon Keim  
Damien Tatomer

Jim Kovich  
Tim Laurain  
Charles Lowler (Captain)  
David Lowler  
Jason McManus  
Mike McNabb (Lieutenant)  
Gordon Miles, Jr.  
Chad Miller  
Jim Proctor  
Mark Relich (Captain)  
Kim Richardson  
Wanda Ryan (Sergeant)  
Carolyn Sartor  
Adam Trombley  
Bob Walters

Duncan Murdock (Chief)  
Chris Payette (Deputy Chief)  
Peter Payette (Asst. Chief)



*Look, Makowski & Look .....General Legal Counsel*

*Kotz, Sagster, Wysocki & Berg, P.C. .... Labor Counsel*

*C.E. Raines Company ..... Professional Engineers*

*Hungerford and Company .....Professional Auditors*

*Langworthy, Strader, LaBlanc & Assoc.....Planning Consultants*

**POLICE COMMISSION** (Apr.4 Appt.)

|                              |       |
|------------------------------|-------|
| <b>Carl Bloetscher Chair</b> | 08-14 |
| Joesph Dixon                 | 06-12 |
| Paul Anderson                | 06-12 |
| Robert Zelasko               | 10-16 |

Tw. Board: Erik Ranka  
[2nd Tue 7:30 PSB]

**FIRE COMMISSION** (Apr.4 Appt.)

|                              |       |
|------------------------------|-------|
| <b>Stuart Keeler (Chair)</b> | 10-16 |
| Curt Korneffel               | 06-12 |
| Gordon Miles                 | 06-12 |
| Jerry Bringard               | 04-16 |

Tw. Board: Jim Johnson  
[2nd Thu. 7:30 PSB]

**PLANNING COMMISSION** (Apr. 1 Appt.)  
(Appointment by the Supervisor)

|                                |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| <b>John Schweickart, Chair</b> | 9-12  |
| Jay Frucci                     | 10-13 |
| Steven LeMoine                 | 10-12 |
| Dennis Reno                    | 08-11 |
| Anne Javoroski                 | 08-11 |
| Jim Davis                      | 09-12 |
| Brian Pawlik                   | 11-13 |
| Jody Charlson                  | 08-11 |

Tw. Board: Erik Ranka  
[1st & 3rd Mon. 7:30]

**AIRPORT COM PARK COM** (April 4 Appt.)

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| <b>Ron Moran, Chair</b> | 09-12 |
| Vacant (Barton)         | 08-11 |
| Chris Mans              | 10-13 |
| Walter Stoll            | 08-11 |
| Jim Weeks               | 10-13 |
| Ron Baker               | 10-13 |

Tw. Board: Peter Kantz  
[3<sup>rd</sup> Mon 7:00]

**BROWNFIELD AUTHORITY** (April 1 Appt.)

**Ron Moran, Chair** 09-12  
 James Weaks 10-13  
 Walter Stoll 08-11  
**Vacant (Barton)** 08-11  
 Christopher Mans 10-13  
 Ron Baker 10-13  
 Derek Thiel, Airfield Mgr.  
 Twp. Board: Peter Kantz

**PUBLIC SERVICES COMMISSION** (Apr.4 Appt.)

**William Costick, Chair** 09-12  
**(Vacant) Buckley** 08-11  
 Walter Pociask 09-11  
 Frank Kent 09-12  
 Gordon Miles 09-12  
 John Reilly 09-12  
 Barry Sedlock, DPS Director  
 Twp. Board: Theodore Van Os  
 WC County Roads  
 [2<sup>nd</sup> Tues.; 7:30 p.m.]

**BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE** (Apr.1 Appt)

**Art Koester, Chair** 08-11  
 Pamela Frucci 10-13  
 Linda Tilley 08-11  
 Marcia Woodley 10-13  
 Faith Vollenweider 08-11  
 Michele Babcock 09-12  
 Bonnie Adams 08-11  
 Brian Medved 08-11  
 Virginia Konczalski 08-11  
 [1st Wed. 7:30]

**COMMUNITY RECREATION COMMISSION** (Apr 1)

**Walter Kacher, Chair** 08-11  
 Michael Swales 08-11  
 Greg Meyring 09-11  
 William Morreau 08-11  
 John Conroy 09-11  
 E. Lea Schelke 09-12  
**Vacant (Gilroy)** 09-12  
 Helena Woodward-Ryan 08-11  
 Ethel Yops 08-11  
 Tim Rooney, Recreation Director  
 Twp. Board: Ute O'Connor  
 [4<sup>th</sup> Thurs. 7:30]

**BOARD OF REVIEW** (Jan. Reapp.-Oath in 10 days)

|                   |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| William Mead      | 09-11 |
| Timothy Walker    | 10-12 |
| Shelley Schmidtke | 09-11 |
| Richard Nielsen   | 09-11 |

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION** (April 1 Appt.)

|                                   |       |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| <b>Darryl Froehlich, Chair</b>    | 08-11 |
| Robert P. Arndt                   | 03-12 |
| Lauren Murphy                     | 08-11 |
| Craig Pilkington                  | 09-12 |
| Kathy Walker                      | 09-12 |
| Jennifer Park, School Rep.        |       |
| Ted Fournier, Cable Administrator |       |
| Twp. Board: Pamela Frucci         |       |
| [3rd Thu. 7:30]                   |       |

**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

(Oct. Appt. by the Supervisor-4 yrs.)

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| <b>Ron Moran, Chair</b>  | 08-12 |
| Gloria Trudell           | 08-12 |
| Peter Stachel            | 09-13 |
| Rita Cole                | 09-13 |
| Susan Harrison           | 10-14 |
| Jay Frucci               | 08-12 |
| Eric Anderson            | 10-14 |
| Ray Biddle               | 09-13 |
| Twp. Board: Brian Loftus |       |
| [Fourth Thurs: 6:30]     |       |

**GREENWAYS/OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE**

(April 1 Appointment)

**At-Large Members**

|                                |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| <b>Cliff St. Pierre, Chair</b> | 09-12 |
| Rosanne Ellison                | 10-13 |
| Woody Clark                    | 10-13 |
| Joe Esordi                     | 08-11 |
| Pat Selby (GINLC)              |       |
| Margerite Hasserrodt (GINLC)   | 08-11 |

**Island Beautification Reps.**

|               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| Art Koester   | 10-13 |
| Pamela Frucci | 10-13 |

**FESTIVAL COMMISSION** (August 31 Appointment)

|                            |       |
|----------------------------|-------|
| <b>Amy Longton (Chair)</b> | 07-10 |
| Chad Novak                 | 09-12 |
| Margaret Nash              | 09-12 |
| Julie Cortis               | 10-13 |
| William Morreau            | 09-12 |
| <b>Vacant (Saunders)</b>   | 09-12 |
| Ann Darzniek               | 09-12 |
| Brian Johnson              | 07-10 |
| Russ Dentico               |       |

- \*Ute O'Connor, Twp. Board Liaison
- \*Tim Rooney-Rec.Dir.
- \*John S., Public Safety Rep.
- \*Barry Sedlock, DPS Director
- (\*Appts. go with their positions)
- [3rd Wed. 7:30]

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS** (April 1 Appt.)

|                            |       |
|----------------------------|-------|
| <b>Thomas Esordi,Chair</b> | 10-13 |
| James Binting              | 10-13 |
| Jacqueline Snow Davies     | 08-11 |
| Robert Pierce              | 10-13 |
| Robert Carnago             | 10-13 |
| <b>Vacant (Alternate)</b>  | 07-10 |

- John Schweickart, Planning Comm. Rep.
- Ute O'Connor, Twp. Board
- [4th Tues. 7:30]

**ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMPENSATION COMM.**

(Appt. effective in January-5 year terms)

|                                 |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| <b>Vacant (Javoroski),Chair</b> | 05-10 |
| Michael Moco                    | 10-15 |
| <b>Vacant (Ranka)</b>           | 08-13 |
| <b>Vacant (Miles)</b>           | 08-10 |
| <b>Vacant</b>                   | 05-10 |

**BOARD OF CANVASSERS Terms Expire**

|                           |       |
|---------------------------|-------|
| <b>Carol Knopp, Chair</b> | 12-13 |
| Margaret Bailey           | 12-11 |
| Michele Babcock           | 12-13 |
| Denise Lenhart            | 12-11 |

**CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS**

(Appt. by Supervisor – 2 year terms)

|                            |       |
|----------------------------|-------|
| <b>James Morris, Chair</b> | 10-12 |
| Anthony Krauss             | 09-11 |
| <b>Vacant (Van Os)</b>     | 07-09 |
| Alan Anderson              | 09-11 |
| Alaa Herfi                 | 10-12 |
| Phillip Gapp               | 09-11 |
| Twp Board: Theodore Van Os |       |

**DANGEROUS BUILDINGS OFFICER**

Mike Perry, 21880 Stanton Drive

**AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

|                             |       |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| <b>Alan Anderson, Chair</b> | 09-12 |
| Mark Glovis                 | 09-12 |
| Jim Johnson                 | 10-13 |
| Carl Rigg                   | 09-12 |
| Pam Broomall                | 09-12 |
| Derek Thiel – Airfield Mrg. |       |
| Re-Appt January 23          |       |

**SENIOR TAX ASSISTANCE**

Anne Javorski  
 Frank Moore  
 Jan Slater

*Are you interested in serving on a Commission?*

**Commission/Committee Applications are available in  
 the Administration & Clerk’s Offices  
 Also available on the website @ [www.grosseile.com](http://www.grosseile.com)  
 Under the Government tab/Commissions**

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State  
of the  
Township

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**OUR THIRD YEAR**

Your Board of Trustees is midway through our third year in office; we have learned much about governing a township and still have much to learn. This Annual Report will serve to present the State of the Township, based on a combination of facts, observations, and educated opinions.

**MY MISSION**

In my third year as your Supervisor, the mission you elected me to execute remains unchanged: to preserve Grosse Ile Township as one of our country's most desirable residential communities. To my knowledge, the only means I have available to measure that desirability - living on Grosse Ile versus the many other competing residential offerings - is through property values: free Americans can and do vote with their checkbooks. Only through convincing current and future residents that Grosse Ile is clearly their best choice among places to live, work and play can we fill the empty homes, classrooms, and shops throughout the township. While I cannot speak for all, I am convinced that a majority of you share in the pursuit of this objective. To that end, with the support of your Board of Trustees, I will continue to seek and implement every means to reverse the decline in our property values by continually identifying and improving those quality-of-life services and assets that distinguish us from other communities. We all have a stake in this, so I will constantly seek your inputs and advice.

**LOOKING BACK...**

Over the past year, thanks to the efforts of both township residents and government, we continued to make progress toward maintaining our quality of life on a very limited budget. Here is a partial list of recent developments on your island:

Despite seasonably severe weather, we dramatically reduced power outages compared to previous years thanks to the cooperation between DTE Energy and a Public Service Commission task force formed to identify and correct weaknesses in this critical infrastructure.

Last fall you told us that road maintenance was lower on your priorities than in previous pollings, so our road improvements have been dramatically reduced. Only the most critical deficiencies will be repaired until additional funding is secured. Ongoing repairs of our roadways is and will continue to be a focus of this township, but without an influx of funding, unfortunately, little can be accomplished.

We are continuing our equally important capital improvement program to proactively maintain and improve our water and sewer systems, funded by a portion of your water bills.

Unfortunately, based on revelations from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, the cost to reliably deliver your water will rise at unacceptable rates for the foreseeable future. We continue to investigate a collaborative water treatment plant, but every answer we have gleaned thus far has lead to more questions that demand further research before we make any decision that will impact this vital service for decades to come.

By renewing the Fire Equipment millage, you continued your investment in our Fire and Rescue Department, and coupled with your ongoing support for the police millages you have told us that public safety is a high priority. We will ensure that your investments produce the results you expect.

A very divided Board of Trustees was unable to reach a settlement with the Grosse Ile Bridge Company, resulting in a devastating judgment against the township. In order to pay that judgment, we asked your opinions and considered many options, with a majority of the board agreeing to utilize Open Space Funds to reimburse the General Fund for township owned vacant land that was otherwise un-programmed. With over 70 acres of desirable undeveloped land now protected as Open Space, and with Open Space Maintenance Funds available, we can add valuable access to natural areas for all residents to enjoy and leave this unfortunate litigation in the past. Be assured I will install risk mitigation measures to ensure we never again enter such a troubling endeavor.

**AT THE MOMENT...**

One of my primary responsibilities as Supervisor is developing our annual budget. Like all communities, we suffered from dramatically declining revenues, and last fall’s mid-year review of our finances made it clear that continued reductions in expenditures were going to be necessary. For the first time in anyone’s memory we will have to reach into our reserves to provide the essential government services you expect. However, while other communities are facing far more serious financial crises, Grosse Ile Township is in reasonably sound condition, thanks to the dedication and hard work of your township staff and Board of Trustees, all committed to reducing expenses rather than increasing revenues (taxes). To that end, we have made extremely difficult decisions in further staff reductions and the remaining employees took furlough days in order to preserve our limited financial resources for other necessary expenses.

On a more positive note, we are ahead of the state’s “Complete Streets” legislation, legislation that mandates (without funding) increased access to non-motorized travel. Plans are going forward to complete more Bike Paths, and we have almost completed – finally – the Safe Routes program. Unfortunately, we learned too late that we did not have the equipment or the methodology to ensure the walks and paths were available year-round. Yes, I’m referring to snow removal, some of it our responsibility, some of it yours, all of it necessary to advance our community and contribute to a healthier, more appealing lifestyle.

On the subject of healthy activities, we are always researching ways to improve the Water’s Edge recreation complex, **one of the island’s most treasured** assets. Thanks to the very dedicated group of volunteers who do much of the maintenance, your public golf course is financially solid and will be ready for play later this spring.

Our Downtown Development Authority continues to plan our first ‘pocket park’ on Ma-comb Street, evaluating design options for this welcome addition to our community’s business district.

**LOOKING FORWARD...**

The immediate future will bring us challenges unprecedented in peacetime America. Michiganians overwhelmingly elected a new governor and legislature who recognize and acknowledge the realities of the fiscal peril to both our nation and state. Obviously Grosse Ile Township is not immune from this situation, a situation we must address with difficult budgetary decisions on an almost daily basis. The hackneyed phrase ‘do more with less’ will no longer serve as a stall tactic; we must all accept the reality that we will only be able to provide less. Where I will not compromise, however, is public safety. The first cost savings in many nearby communities has always been the reduction of firefighters and police officers. As stated earlier, you told us that you will not accept compromise in this area. Grosse Ile is, and will remain, one of America’s safest communities because of the dedication of our volunteer firefighters, our police and police reserve forces. Don’t pass up an opportunity to thank these individuals for their commitment.

Having established my position regarding the township’s commitment to your safety, I heartily agree with Governor Snyder’s stated position: spend the taxpayers’ money openly and wisely. Make government transparent and responsive, and collaborate with other units of government when appropriate to both reduce costs and benefit from economies of scale. Transparency comes with some resistance, as it has never been a priority here, and you have not yet demanded it. While it will initially add some workload to our already lean township staff, proper use of available technology will make more open government the new ‘business as usual.’ Collaboration will prove somewhat more challenging but might be a qualification for revenue sharing from the state. As an island township, we are in a unique geographical situation that makes some consolidation impractical, but we do have mutual aid and assistance agreements between police and fire departments that should meet scrutiny. These are force multipliers that add capabilities without additional costs and just make sense. I will search for other opportunities, so expect some township business to be done differently in the months to come. I welcome any suggestions in this area - if you see another business or community performing a service or function in an exceptional manner, let us know. I haven’t forgotten that I work for you, and I truly appreciate any and all assistance in my quest to preserve and improve the best place I have ever lived.

Let me close by stating that I remain optimistic about our future, this Island has survived economic declines in the past and will do so again, but I want Grosse Ile to lead the recovery, not to wait for the recovery to reach us. So let's join together and make this the community we are proud to call home, the community we want our friends to discover, and the community we want to leave for our children.

Thank you for your confidence and support

Brian Loftus  
Township Supervisor  
Email: bloftus4gi@yahoo.com

The past year was very challenging on the Federal, State, and Local fronts related to the economy and the general mood of society. However, the Township of Grosse Ile has been very proactive over the past several years in preparing for the economic downturn by freezing employee pay, reorganizing Departments, reducing health care benefits, and not replacing retired employees. The fiscally conservative efforts employed have postured the Township to weather the storm allowing officials to use the “rainy day” funds only as much as necessary and on a limited basis.

Past year’s highlights included:

- ✓ Accepted the retirements of Kathleen Nachtab, Recreation Coordinator and Lora Schaller, Animal Control Officer with 24 and 32 years of service, respectively.
- ✓ Recognized the transfer of the Township waste hauling contract due to a sale from Capital Waste Management, Inc to Waste Management Inc.
- ✓ Hosted the NASGI Duathlon.
- ✓ Coordinated the construction of the Safe Routes to School Grant.
- ✓ Reorganized the Cable Department to a Communications Department as well as provided streaming video of Township meetings over the internet.
- ✓ Completed the Financial Feasibility Review Study for a Joint Water Treatment Plant / Tower with Trenton and Riverview and began discussions with the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department regarding possible implications of such a project.
- ✓ Continued with Police Officer Association of Michigan (POAM) negotiations.
- ✓ The Ordinance Officer responded to an average of 58 complaints per month as compared to 52 per month the prior year.
- ✓ The Township hosted the First Annual Veteran’s Gala at the Grosse Ile Municipal Airport.
- ✓ The Township Board paid-off the internal loan to the Open Space account which funded the Grosse Ile Bridge Company judgment in the amount of \$1,582,003.50 by transferring General Fund owned property to an Open Space designation.
- ✓ Closed all non-public safety offices for one week during the winter as a cost saving measure.
- ✓ With the assistance of dedicated Golf Committee Volunteers, the Water’s Edge Golf Course was able to create a positive trend in the golf course finances.

Dale L. Reaume, M.P.A.  
Township Manager

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# General Fund Department Reports

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**Mission Statement**

*With respect and appreciation for the Township of Grosse Ile’s rich historical heritage, the Clerk’s staff diligently provides conscientious service to the public, the Township Board, and the general administration, while preparing for the ever-changing demands for the future.*

*To oversee and educate township staff and officials on the procedures for collecting, retaining, archiving, and efficiently disseminating all official township information of record.*

*To manage all federal, state, local and school elections efficiently, accurately and fairly, following Michigan Election Laws; and, to continually strive to maintain strict voting security measures at all times.*

***Responsibilities of the Clerk’s Office***

The General Law Township Clerk plays a major role in establishing the atmosphere in which the Board conducts the business of serving residents.

The Clerk’s office is often the first public telephone contact that callers experience when calling the township hall for information or service and most often the office visited when residents and non-residents arrive at township hall looking for information or assistance; the Clerk’s staff strives to provide accurate information in a friendly and professional manner.

The Clerk’s statutory duties are numerous, technical and legally essential to the proper operation of municipal government.

The Township Clerk’s Office is responsible for a wide variety of services and information which includes providing guidance for the recording and keeping of official records, books and papers of Township Board and Commission meetings, the proper maintenance of accounts payable and other financial ledgers through the Finance Department, within the Uniform Chart of Accounts, as prescribed by the State Treasurer and working along with the Township Treasurer oversees the disbursement of all monies paid out under the order of the proper township authorities.

In addition, the Clerk and Deputy Clerk and their staff handle the processing of public bids, applications, Solicitation Permits, coordination and distribution of Freedom of Information requests, publishing of Public Notices and Agendas under the Open Meetings Act and providing direction to township departments to maintain the records and documents of the township as prescribed under the official Records Retention Schedule of the State of Michigan.

The Clerk is required to appoint a Deputy Clerk who is authorized to act as Clerk in all matters except voting on township business in the event of the Clerk’s absence, sickness, death or other disability. The Deputy Clerk assists the Clerk in all matters pertaining to the office and additionally, may also assist members of the Township Board.

***Voter Registration***

Voter Registration and election management is one of the primary responsibilities and most visible public functions of the Clerk’s Office. Preparation for every election begins several months in advance of Election Day with the training of Precinct Inspectors, the testing of all vote tabulation equipment and the preparation of precinct supplies and equipment; as well as the preparation and publication of all required election public notices.

Residents may register to vote at the Clerk’s office during regular business hours. However, eligible voters may also register to vote at any office of the Secretary of State. To be eligible to vote, a person must be a U.S. citizen 18 years of age or older and a resident of their local jurisdiction a minimum of 30 days prior to any election.

Absentee ballots are available approximately 30 days prior to each election and may be requested by written application or letter during the seventy-five days prior to each election by those voters 60 years and older or voters who will be unable to vote in person on Election Day. Applications for Absentee Ballots are available in person at the Clerk’s Office, online at [grosseile.com](http://grosseile.com) or at [Michigan.gov/Secretary of State](http://Michigan.gov/Secretary of State).

***Polling Places***

*Precincts 1 and 2—Grosse Ile Presbyterian Church*

7925 Horsemill Road at Parke Lane

*Precincts 3 and 4— V.F.W. Hall, Post 7310*

8840 Macomb Street

*Precincts 5 and 6— Recreation Building*

Centennial Farm

25797 Third Street, south of Bellevue

*Absentee Ballot Tabulation Center*

Township Hall

Precincts are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day and sample ballots are available for preview in advance of each election upon request at the Clerk’s Office.

***Municipal Code of Ordinances***

The Municipal Code and Zoning Ordinances are maintained by the Township Clerk’s Office and are available for review in the office and on the internet at [grosseile.com](http://grosseile.com).

Copies of individual Ordinances are available at a per page copy fee, or the entire bound document may be purchased for \$50.00 through our office. Amendments to the Ordinances that are not yet published in book format or included in the online version are available for review at the Clerk’s Office during business hours.

***Passport Applications***

Since 2001, the Clerk’s Office has served as a Passport Acceptance Agency.

Passport applications are processed on a “By Appointment” basis during regular business hours and at select other times by prior arrangement.

**Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Department Statistics**  
**Compiled March 11, 2011**

|                                                                 |          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Total Number of Residents (2000 Census) .....                   | 10,894   |
| Total Registered Voters (as of March 8, 2011).....              | 8,610    |
| Passports Processed since 2004 .....                            | 814      |
| Passports Processed (April 1, 2010 through March 8, 2011) ..... | 107      |
| Passport Revenue Fiscal Year 2010/2011 .....                    | \$ 2,675 |
| Freedom of Information Requests Processed .....                 | 63       |
| Solicitor/Peddler Permits Issued .....                          | 6        |
| Aerial Photo Sales Revenue Fiscal Year to Date .....            | \$ 205   |
| Number of Elections Held.....                                   | 2        |

**Township Clerk and Staff ~ Fiscal Year 2010-2011**

*Ute O’Connor, Township Clerk (1997- Present) ~ [uteo@grosseile.com](mailto:uteo@grosseile.com)  
Sharon Gray, Deputy Clerk, Office Manager ~ [sharonb@grosseile.com](mailto:sharonb@grosseile.com)  
Bryan Friel, Election & Records Assistant ~ [bryanf@grosseile.com](mailto:bryanf@grosseile.com)  
Gayle Haeger, Clerical Staff (Seasonal)*

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***Mission Statement***

*The Mission of the Treasurer’s Office is the efficient collection of all revenues owed to Grosse Ile Township and other taxing units. We strive to distribute in a timely, efficient and accurate manner collected tax monies to the various taxing units and Township accounts. The Treasurer is also responsible for the collection of other Township receipts and the investment of idle Township funds. The Treasurer’s Office continues to make customer service a priority by assisting residents and visitors to the Township Offices.*

All funds received by the Township are deposited by the Treasurer’s Office. The Township Treasurer is also responsible for collection and timely distribution of taxes to Wayne County, Grosse Ile Township Schools as well as Grosse Ile Township. Collections for Department of Public Works, Grosse Ile Municipal Airport, Police and Fire Department, Department of Community Development and Recreation Department are collected and deposited by the Treasurer’s Office. Pet licenses and dog park passes are also sold on an annual basis.

This office, once again, reconciled and balanced the 2009 tax roll with the Wayne County Treasurer’s Office. Continued cooperation with the office of the Wayne County Treasurer has always been a high priority for we believe that effective communication benefits not only our office, but also our residents.

During the last fiscal year the Township Treasurer’s Office has seen investment interest rates continue to drop. Though conservative in nature, the Treasurer’s Office continues to obtain the best investment vehicle at the highest rate. Investments are reviewed often to achieve and insure security for the Township in these turbulent economic times.

Delinquent personal property tax collection is an ongoing priority for the Treasurer’s Office. Delinquent personal property tax amounts are pursued until fully paid. Many local businesses are feeling the impact of the economy, yet only a few are having difficulty paying their personal property taxes.

The Treasurer’s Office is taking advantage of the options offered by the electronic age. We now use electronic banking and investing on a daily basis. It minimizes travel to the banks, allows for real-time account information and maximizes our investment income by broadening our financial choices beyond what is available locally. Our residents and taxpayers now have online payment options for water and tax bills through our website. This has become an increasingly accepted payment option for many individuals and businesses.

For the fiscal year 2011 – 2012, the Treasurer’s Office will continue to pursue of the following endeavors:

- Continue to provide Township Investment Reports to the Township Board and the public.
- Maintain an investment policy that aggressively invests dollars while still maintaining a conservative and secure investment platform.
- Continue an aggressive collection policy regarding personal property tax collection accounts.
- Continue to serve the public in the most efficient and courteous manner.

The Treasurer and the Deputy Treasurer are available for the residents and taxpayers to meet with them and discuss issues that relate to Township tax dollars and Township’s investments. The Treasurer’s Office staff is also available as a resource of information as well as the Grosse Ile Township website .

Theodore Van Os, Township Treasurer  
Office: 676-4422, Extension 223  
Email @ tedv@grosseile.com

**Mission Statement:**

*The Department of Community Development is responsible for protecting the public health, safety and welfare of the Township regarding land use and construction in all new and existing structures.*

**Department Objectives:**

The importance of codes, code regulation and code enforcement is often overlooked until a catastrophic fire or other construction-related tragedy occurs. Inspecting buildings during and after construction helps to ensure that buildings are safe, sound and accessible places to work, play and live.

The role of the Community Development staff is to provide for the safety, health and welfare of the general public through the enforcement of zoning and municipal code regulations. Every day, assisted by technology and co-workers, they provide excellent customer service to the public to improve the quality of life in the community. Whether answering phones, greeting the residents requesting information or contractors wanting permits, the Community Development staff is always ready and willing to serve the public’s needs.

**Performance Indicators:**

| <u>Calendar Year</u> | <u>2002</u> | <u>2003</u> | <u>2004</u> | <u>2005</u> | <u>2006</u> | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> | <u>2009</u> | <u>2010</u> |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Building Permits     | *336        | 318         | 301         | 213         | 214         | 250         | 214         | 219         | 255         |
| Mechanical Permits   | 215         | 194         | 206         | 181         | 183         | 183         | 138         | 154         | 183         |
| Plumbing Permits     | 94          | 89          | 94          | 86          | 55          | 55          | 41          | 36          | 41          |
| Electrical Permits   | 212         | 185         | 202         | 145         | 161         | 124         | 99          | 147         | 212         |
| Code Enforcement**   | 496         | 404         | N/A         | 509**       | 441**       | 686**       | 649**       | 624**       | 696**       |

\*Includes zoning permits.

\*\*Types of code enforcement issues include open space complaints and open space maintenance including tree removal near public and private properties, tree removal in the road right-of-ways to prevent injury, liability and safety issues and property damage. Site inspections are performed regarding location and severity risks of these types of risks. Although much of the dead Ash trees have been handled, unfortunately, there was an unforeseen emergence of Oak Wilt and Dutch Elm.

Other complaints include mosquito issues and subsequent dunk applications, education, drainage problems, vacant property maintenance and business district conditions. We received complaints including but not limited to – the Safe Routes to Schools project, bridges, bike paths, foliage overgrowth blocking signs, graffiti, sidewalks, signage, roads and their condition, power outage, storm damage, and various neighborhood disputes.

Ombudsman duties include working with various departments at State, County and local level on a wide variety of issues including the Ash Bore, Oak Wilt, Dutch Elm, Pine Shoot Beetle and Gypsy Moth, Asian Long Horned Beetle, West Nile, etc., address the blocking of easements and fire hydrants, dirt and gravel on roads or easements, the dumping of material into drainage and waterways, and flooding problems.

Local enforcement issues include working without permits, zoning reviews for permits, storage of equipment and materials, trash and yard waste, planting of shrubs or landscaping, leaf and snow removal disputes, storm damage, graffiti, foliage overgrowth on bike paths or obstructing signage, improper placement of recreational vehicles, boats, stacked wood, non-plated vehicles, tall grass, advertising signs, placement of political and garage sale signs and much, much more.

**Permits Issued:**

New home construction rose this year with the issuance of four new single-family home permits during the calendar year. Total building permits issued for the calendar year were 255 with a total construction value of \$3,869,608. Of this total construction value \$1,396,550 dollars were for four new single-family homes constructed. Building permits issued overall were up 18% over the previous year.

**2010 Highlights:**

- 100+ mosquito dunk (biological larvicide) applications were done for concerned residents. West Nile education of residents (Wayne County Health Department and State of Michigan).
- Overseer of cleanup of two catastrophic windstorms and issues associated with it (i.e. tree and limb removal, yard waste, power outage, etc.).
- As Township Liaison inspected and took photos of a significant amount of road complaints (i.e. potholes, guardrails, signage, road shoulders, culverts and ditches, etc.) and reported to Wayne County.
- Supervised the removal in excess of 500 trees from Open Space, the bike path system, Centennial Farm, Playscape, Airport, Recreation, Public Safety, Four-Corners and other areas to reduce safety and liability concerns.
- Educated residents regarding Ash Bore, Oak Wilt, Dutch Elm, Pine Shoot and Asian Long horned Beetles and Gypsy Moth.
- Continued with the general cleanup of Open Space at many locations including Horsemill, Meridian, Thorofare, Parke Lane and Loma Circle. Contractors removed or chipped hundreds of yards of trees, brush and debris 50-feet from the road way for improved aesthetics.
- Handled tree and other complaints (poles, etc.) as Township Liaison for Wayne County Forestry, DTE, AT&T, cable and others.
- Maintained foreclosed and/or vacant homes including emergency trash pickup from Sheriff Evictions and other property maintenance concerns.
- Assisted in drainage complaints including meeting with resident, inspection and photos and follow-up with the Township's engineer and forwarded to DPS Administrative Manager for Drainage Grant Program.

**2010-2011 Goals:**

During the upcoming budget year, we would like to accomplish the following:

- Continue a proactive approach to code enforcement;
- Educate residents on the importance of obtaining permits for work done; and
- Provide continuing education classes for department employees.

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### Assessing Service Statement

The goal of the Assessor's Office is to provide equitable distribution of the property tax burden under current law, administer the Board of Review, compile Special Assessment Rolls, and to serve the community as a valuable source of land and building value information and legal descriptions.

Township Assessor Timothy E. O'Donnell handles the assessing duties of the township. The Assessor's Office, which falls under the jurisdiction of the Township Supervisor, is responsible for the assessments of all real and personal property within the boundaries of the Township.

The Assessor's Office keeps records on all properties including field sheets (square footage) and plat maps (lot size). The Assessor's Office maintains maps of parcel boundaries, descriptions of buildings and property characteristics and most importantly, analyzes trends in sales prices, constructions costs, and rents to estimate the value of all assessable property.

The Board of Review, a commission made up of Grosse Ile residents appointed by the Township Board, meets each March to hear taxpayer appeals on property values. If the property owner does not agree with the assessed value, the property owner may state their case at the March Board of Review. Residents are invited to appeal in person or by mail. The Board of Review decides appeals on value as well as income each year.

The members of the Board of Review are Tim Walker, Bill Mead, Shelly Schmidtke, and Richard Nielsen.

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**Mission Statement**

*The goal of the Finance Department is to continually strive to improve the quality, timeliness, and distribution of financial data, as well as, the efficiency of the procedures necessary to generate this data. The finance department attentively provides a variety of services to all other departments within the Township, general employees and administration, the Township Board and a variety of constituents within the community.*

**Finance Service Statement**

The Finance Department performs a wide range of finance and accounting duties. This department has the overall responsibility of all accounting and finance related functions. This responsibility is discharged in accordance with Federal and State regulations, ordinances enacted by the Township Board, directives from the Township Manager, and is consistent with Governmental and Financial Standards established by the Government Accounting Board. The Director of Finance, Ann Darzniek, being the Chief Financial Officer of the Township, is charged with the responsibility of protecting and safeguarding the assets of the Township.

The Finance Department consists of finance and budgeting administration, accounting and control, accounts payable, payroll and benefit administration, risk management and overseeing banking and investing activities. The Department consists of Ann Darzniek, Finance Director, Annette Wurtsmith, Finance/Tax Assistant, and Caryn Johnson, Payables/Benefits Assistant. The Finance Department also includes operations of the Treasurer functions of the Township. Annette Wurtsmith is also the Deputy Treasurer, and Barb McMahon is the Cashier.

The Finance Department is responsible for the books of original entry for the assets, liabilities, equities, revenues and expenditures of the Township. In Grosse Ile Township, the Finance Director develops and maintains tracking systems for all financial transactions, projects, road construction costs, encumbrances, and any other financial needs of the Township Board and Administration. The department generates and distributes many internal and external management reports. The department is responsible for the reconciliation of all account balances in the general ledger so that an annual audited financial report can be produced as required by state statute and filed with the state treasurer within 120 days after the end of the fiscal year.

The Finance Department processes all purchase orders and accounts payable. This function includes approval, data entry, proper account distribution, reconciliation, and filing of all invoices by vendor. Discrepancies between vendor statements and invoices are resolved prior to processing. Approximately 6,000 claims for payment are processed each year. An encumbrance and council warrant list is produced and presented to the Township Board for approval at each regular Board meeting.

Payroll processing for all Township employees is executed in the Finance Department. This processing includes data input, coordination and payment of employee benefits, withholding and reporting of income taxes, maintenance of records and payment of all other payroll deductions. Payroll processing and record keeping functions are performed for approximately 100 employees, each with unique benefits. The Finance Department is responsible for administering all employee benefits offered. In January 2011, the township changed co-pays and deductible amounts for all non-union, police personnel and all volunteer firemen, as well as, changing plan options for all retired employees over 65, These changes resulted in an overall savings to the Township in the amount of \$300,000 resulting in an overall savings of approximately 25% of the quoted 18% increase. Therefore achieving an overall 8.2% decrease. The Township Management will continue to monitor employee benefit costs on an annual renewal basis.

The Finance Department is responsible for the Township’s debt management by coordinating arrangements for all capital financing and debt issuance. The Township’s previous bond issues have been rated by Standard & Poor’s and Moody’s. Standard & Poor’s and Moody’s are the best-known and most influential credit rating agencies. Their role as raters is to assess the risk of certain bonds through the study of all information provided to the public, and assign to the issue and issuing company grades that accurately reflect the company’s ability to meet the promised principal and interest payments. Although somewhat different in their letter usage, Standard & Poor’s and Moody’s both rate bonds in descending alphabetical order from A to C. The most recent available ratings from Standard & Poor’s and Moody’s were AA and A1 respectively. In March 2009, the Township Standard & Poor’s rating went from an AA- to an AA.

**Bond Rating Codes**

| <b>Rating</b>                        | <b>S&amp;P</b> | <b>Moody’s</b> |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Highest Quality                      | AAA            | Aaa            |
| High Quality                         | AA             | Aa             |
| Upper Medium Quality                 | A              | A              |
| Medium Grade                         | BBB            | Bbb            |
| Somewhat Speculative                 | BB             | Ba             |
| Low Grade Speculative                | B              | B              |
| Low Grade, Default Possible          | CCC            | Caa            |
| Low Grade, Partial Recovery Possible | CC             | Ca             |
| Default, Recovery Unlikely           | C              | C              |

Yet another function of the Finance Department is to inventory and perform insurance monitoring for general Township liability. The primary purpose is to preserve the Township's assets through loss prevention, control and financing. The department processes all claims against the Township. In 2010, again the Township recognized a 0% increase in insurance premiums for the 2010-2011 renewal period.

The citizens of Grosse Ile are assured of sound fiscal planning and management through the budget process. The Director of Finance, Ann Darzniek, serves as the Budget Officer of the Township. The Budget is prepared in accordance with the State Budgeting Act. The budget process establishes priorities for the fiscal year. The Department monitors the Township financial condition through budget amendments, forecasts, and the review of department performance measurements. In addition, salary wage spreads, personnel costs, and labor contract analyses are processed. The budget is the chief indicator of the Township's past performance as well as a means for determining annual goals and objectives. An annual budget is presented and adopted each year at the annual meeting.

**Finance Department Staff**

Ann Darzniek, CPA, Finance Director  
Annette Wurtsmith, Finance Assistant & Deputy Treasurer  
Caryn Johnson, Accounts Payable & Benefits

Barbara McMahon, Cashier, Office of the Treasurer

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# Public Safety

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**MISSION STATEMENT**

- ◆ Provide firefighting services for the residents of, and visitors to, Grosse Ile, Michigan.
- ◆ Provide basic emergency medical services for the residents of, and visitors to, Grosse Ile, Michigan.
- ◆ Cooperate with the fire departments of the Downriver Mutual Assistance pact in the performance of their responsibilities.
- ◆ Instruct members of the Association in proper firefighting and emergency medical care procedures and study and improve the firefighting and emergency medical care capabilities of its members.
- ◆ Provide educational programs to the residents of Grosse Ile concerning the causes and prevention of fires and proper fire safety procedures.
- ◆ Collect and disseminate information concerning the causes of fire.
- ◆ Cultivate friendship and social contact among its members and promote and hold various social events.
- ◆ Solicit, receive, hold, invest and disburse donations, gifts, bequests and other funds for the purposes of the Goodfellow Association.
- ◆ Assist in the care, support and maintenance of indigent persons and families and undertake such other charitable activities consistent with this purpose.
- ◆ Otherwise promote the general welfare of the residents of Grosse Ile.
- ◆ Do all other lawful things consistent with the purpose of this Association.

**GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

*The Grosse Ile Volunteer Fire Department was established in 1943 to provide fire protection to the residents of Grosse Ile. This operation has continued through to today, however, many more demands have been placed on the volunteer.*

The goal of Grosse Ile Volunteer Fire Department is to continue to provide a quality fire and emergency rescue service to the island. It is also the desire of this organization to remain a volunteer department until such time that demands and/or community growth requires an alternative style of fire protection.

The Fire Department will continue to provide community service groups with special standby coverage of certain events such as: all home football games, Memorial Day Run, July 4 Fireworks, Airshows, etc.

**2010 HISTORY & CHALLENGES**

With sixty-seven years under our belts as the Grosse Ile Fire Department, never did the original members ever imagine that the Fire Department would reach the professional level that we are at today. From a two bay dirt floor building in 1943, to an eight bay state of the art fire station in 2010, the Grosse Ile Fire Department has made great strides working towards a quality of life that is safer for the residents of Grosse Ile. With state of the art equipment and highly trained personnel, the Grosse Ile Fire Department has become one of the premier Fire Departments in the state of Michigan. This has all been made possible with the support of the community.

As 2010 comes to a close, Grosse Ile Fire Department has met the challenges of our economic down turn and has worked through them. We look forward to a better year and serving the residents of Grosse Ile is our top priority. This has been a busy year for the Grosse Ile Fire Department. Multiple structure fires are up and our E.M.S is extremely busy. We would like to wish the residents a safe and prosperous 2011. Congratulations to the men and women of the Grosse Ile Fire Department and to the residents for their ongoing support.

As it has been in the past, the Grosse Ile Fire Department is always looking to improve its “Community Alert System”. Life Safety is our main focus. We will continue to keep the community informed about the “Safe and Sound Community Education Program”. With the addition of the E-Light System at the intersections of Bridge & Meridian and Parkway & Chicory warning drivers of approaching Emergency vehicles. Life Safety continues to be our number one concern.

As we grow, the Fire Department is faced with more trainings and education throughout the year. State mandated classes and state of the art equipment make it necessary to train a least once a week and sometimes on weekends. It is important to know that the Grosse Ile Fire Department does all of its own in-house trainings. This commitment from the men and women of the Fire Department is what makes us one of the top Fire Departments in the state.

The men and women of the Fire Department have met the challenges of 2010 and exceeded them. Thank you: to the men and women for their outstanding job and their commitment to Family, Fire Department and the Community.

Goodfellows works diligently throughout the year to help the citizens of Grosse Ile in their time of need. Any resident that knows of a Grosse Ile family or individual in need, please contact the Fire Department.

Fire Chief  
Duncan Murdock



## FIRE DEPARTMENT VOLUNTEER HOURS 2010

### Total Hours

|                                  |                                                   |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Fire Runs & Mutual Aid           | 175 runs                                          | 8,400         |
| EMS Runs & Mutual Aid            | 411 runs                                          | 19,728        |
| Fire Training                    | 27 trainings                                      | 2,592         |
| EMS Training                     | 10 trainings                                      | 960           |
| Ice/Water Rescue Training        | 3 trainings                                       | 288           |
| DMA Dive Team                    | 11 trainings                                      | 704           |
| Dive Team Callouts               | 6 incidents                                       | 480           |
| DMA Fire Investigation           | 3 investigators                                   | 256           |
| Fire Prevention Open House       | (Fire Prevention Week)                            | 256           |
| Community Service                | Goodfellows, Islandfest, Parades,<br>Football EMS | 625           |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL FOR YEAR 2010</b> |                                                   | <b>34,289</b> |

### GROSSE ILE FIRE DEPARTMENT FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT

| <u>YEAR</u> | <u>CALL SIGN</u> | <u>TYPE</u>              | <u>MANUFACTURER</u> |
|-------------|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 1997        | 1661             | Quint (Aerial Device)    | KME                 |
| 2006        | 1651             | Pumper                   | KME                 |
| 1987        | 1653             | Pumper                   | GRUMMAN             |
| 2000        | 1654             | Rescue Pumper            | KME                 |
| 2006        | 1673             | Air Boat                 | RESCUE MASTER       |
| 2009        | 1672             | Ambulance                | BRAUN               |
| 2003        | 1671             | Ambulance                | BRAUN               |
| 2008        | 1681             | Chief's Vehicle          | FORD                |
| 2005        | 1685             | Fire Marshal's Vehicle   | FORD                |
|             | 1673             | Ice/Water Rescue Trailer |                     |
| 2010        | 1691             | Pick up Truck            | FORD                |

This list represents the major equipment in the Grosse Ile Fire Department.

**GROSSE ILE POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**MISSION STATEMENT**

To enhance the quality of life on Grosse Ile by providing prompt, professional community oriented police services, while enforcing state statutes and local ordinances for a safe and secure community.

**Last year members of the police department answered:**

- 18,943 Calls for Service
- 518 Written Reports filed by Officers
- 136 Accident Reports
- 1,798 Traffic Citations
- 37 OWI
- 82 Parking Violations
- 955 Notices to Appear
- 1,393 Verbal Warnings for Traffic Offenses
- 211 Arrests Made
- 144 Misdemeanor Arrests
- 10 Felony Arrests
- 57 Warrant Arrests
- 336 Courtesy Security Notices
- 135 Detective Bureau Complaints to Investigate
- 42 Warrant Requests
- 221,621 Miles Driven/Patrol Vehicles

Our department participates in various Mutual Aid Organizations such as the Downriver Mutual Aid Dive Team.

**Training/Sworn Officers:**

- Child Passenger Safety Technician
- Standard Field Sobriety Testing (SFST)
- Motor Carrier Update
- Sex Offender Registry Enforcement
- Tools/ Response to Individuals with Mental Illness Developmental Disabilities
- Quarterly Firearms
- PPCT
- CPR/AED
- Taser Recertification
- Cyber Cop 101
- Basic Data Recovery and Acquisition
- Interview and Interrogation
- Medicolegal Investigation of Death
- DOA Death Investigations
- Using Social Networks as an Investigative Tool

An Officer successfully completed Managing Civil Actions in Threat Incidents in Anniston, Alabama. This training is funded through FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security. He also completed Basic Agriculture, Emergency Response Training for CBRNE Incidents through Auburn University: College of Veterinary Medicine in October.

**Training/Clerk Dispatchers:**

- Advanced Emergency Medical Dispatch
- Protect Law Enforcement Responders
- Hostage Negotiations/Techniques and Tactics for defusing
- Hostage Situations
- CPR/AED
- CAD Update
- Freedom of Information Act

**Animal Control answered:**

- 1015 Calls for Service
- 177 cats were sheltered
- 147 cats adopted
- 7 cats returned to their owner.
- 98 dogs were picked up
- 71 dogs returned to their owner
- 24 dogs adopted
- 430 verbal warnings
- 11 violations were issued
- \$5,055.00 in donations

TAILS continues to steward the shelter.

**Community Policing Programs:**

- D.A.R.E./160 Students in 2010
- Safety Town
- Bicycle Rodeo and Safety
- First Grade Fingerprinting and Stranger Presentation
- Drug Awareness at Grosse Ile Middle School
- Tobacco and Alcohol Compliance Checks
- Child Passenger Safety

**Grant Programs:**

- Safe Communities Impaired Driving and Seatbelt Grant \$35,000
- Underage Drinking Party Patrol Task Force Grant \$70,000
- Homeland Security Operation Stonegarden Grant \$56,000
- Bulletproof Vest Partnership, 50% reimbursement for vests
- Child Passenger Safety Seats Grant \$4,000

**Partnerships:**

Southeast Michigan Community Alliance  
The Downriver Guidance Center  
Michigan Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking  
SUDDs Coalition

The police department continues to have an officer represent law enforcement with a member assigned to the 33<sup>rd</sup> District Court Sobriety Court program. An officer also holds the position of Chairman of the Wayne County Traffic Safety Committee.

Grants covered the cost of two officers to attend training on Social Networking sites and the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Traffic Safety Summit.

The Members of the Grosse Ile Township Police Department would like to thank our residents for their support. Working together we can keep Grosse Ile one of the Safest Communities in Michigan and provide a quality environment for all Islanders.

**MEMBERS OF THE GROSSE ILE POLICE COMMISSION**

Carl Bloetscher III, Chairperson  
Paul Anderson, Commissioner  
Joseph Dixon, Commissioner  
Robert Zelasko, Commissioner

Erik Ranka, Township Board Liaison

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# Community Recreation

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Mission Statement

*To contribute to the social, physical, educational, cultural, and general well being of the Grosse Ile community and to preserve the natural landscape and environment..*

The Grosse Ile Community Recreation Commission guides the Recreation Department under the following charges:

- Oversight of Community Recreation Department operations (including the Water’s Edge Recreation Facility, the Centennial Farm and the Airport Recreation Park).
- Establish an operations plan that will open all facilities to the residents of Grosse Ile.
- Establish and conduct programs that will meet the recreation needs of all segments of the Grosse Ile population.
- Design and utilize recreation facilities so as to not only provide recreational opportunities, but also contribute to the aesthetic quality and ecological balance of the Township.
- Foster relationships and encourage continued cooperation with community group volunteers, the public school district, the nature conservancy, other township departments and surrounding communities.
- Protect natural resources within the community for their environmental, educational and recreational value.
- Utilize recreation as a catalyst to bring people together and foster a sense of community.
- Continue with recreation planning through review and revision of the Recreation Master Plan to meet the current and future needs of the Grosse Ile residents.

**Recreation Master Plan**

After a 17-month process beginning on August 27, 2009, based on the recommendation of the Community Recreation Commission, the Township Board adopted the 2011-2015 Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Key areas of the new plan (2011-2015) include:

- Description of Planning Process
- Community Description
- Inventory of Programs and Facilities
- Administrative Structure of the Community Recreation Department
- Basis for Action within the Current Plan
- Action Program for the Current Plan

Following the community focus group sessions late 2009, the Community Recreation Commission (CRC) continued to dedicate a portion of the regular meetings in 2010-2011 for discussion and revising sections of the plan based on communications with the residents. On March 25 and October 28, the CRC dedicated the entire meetings to discussing the plan including lengthy question and answer sessions on resident concerns, ideas and suggestions.

Each draft (3) of plan was discussed during televised monthly commission meetings and rebroadcast several times on the local cable access channel.

In an effort to keep the residents updated on the process, a special section was established on the Township website, [www.grosseile.com](http://www.grosseile.com). Community members could reference the website to learn about upcoming meetings related to the master plan process. The residents could view drafts of each section and review results of the various meetings leading up to the Township Board's final approval February 28, 2011.

Throughout the planning process the commission took special care to highlight Grosse Ile's dynamic and vibrant community of people who express a high value on preserving and maintaining the natural beauty and resources in and around the Township. Respect for the community's strong environmental ethic again served as key priority as the Grosse Ile Community Recreation Commission updated the five-year comprehensive master plan for recreational facilities, programs and management.

The plan is an expression of the community's objectives, needs and priorities for services and facilities.

**Programs**

Program participation remained steady in most program areas. The most popular offerings included fitness programs, after school activities, summer concerts, swim lessons, new Marine Safety class and Pre-K sports.

Popularity remained high with community wide special events. Participation remained very high with Hurray for Halloween, Island Glow, the Daddy/Daughter Dance and Breakfast with Santa. Other special events such the Harvest Fest and Easter Egg Hunt experience a slight decrease in participation but were well attended.

The "Last Day of School Shindig" at Water's Edge was extremely popular as several hundred students enjoyed a picnic, magic show and pool party.

Senior Citizens enjoyed regular dinner parties throughout the year at the Centennial Farm Activity Center. Senior events included an October Fest, Holiday Dinner, Saint Patrick's Party, the Patriotic Pride Celebration and a Lazy Days of Summer Picnic. Regular pinochle tournaments, card parties and senior club meetings were held throughout the year attracting residents and visitors from neighboring communities.

As in previous years, the department offered a variety programs focusing on the arts and special interests. A major focus of staff time was placed on planning, coordinating and programming IslandFest. Over the years, the coordination of IslandFest continues to be a twelve month commitment for the staff.

**Water's Edge**

Located on approximately fifty-five acres at the intersection of Bellevue and West River Roads, this unique facility offers a full service restaurant, regulation nine-hole golf course, driving range, a putting green, chipping area, swimming and training pools, a sand volleyball court, outdoor basketball court, picnic shelter (spring 2009), and marina.

In reviewing 2010-2011, the public continued to embrace and support the facility. Following the elimination of the enterprise fund by the Township Board on December 15, 2009, the public designated Water's Edge facility experienced an increase in volunteer support. The golf course volunteer staff increased from 10 people in 2008 to 28 in 2010. In addition to a large golf course volunteer staff, several marina patrons, with support from staff, provided their time and free service to build 300 feet of boardwalk along the new seawall. This volunteer project had a positive impact on the service and overall appearance of the marina. The new transient slips along the seawall/boardwalk accommodated 42 boaters during the 2010 season.

Water's Edge Marina provided seasonal, summer dockage for fifty-three boats and winter storage for 62 boats. The marina lift operator provided launches, haul-outs, and emergency marine services. The marina occupies 800 feet of waterfront property. About 920 feet of waterfront property remains undeveloped for future expansion.

Volunteer positions at Water's Edge included rangers, starters, pro shop and cart fleet attendants, range and golf course maintenance workers and transient dock attendants.

During the winter months, volunteers built, funded and staffed an outdoor ice rink. The ice rink operation was again supported by the department's maintenance staff with labor and other related resources.

The number of 9-hole golf rounds decreased 10,171 in 2009 to 9,792 in 2010. The decrease in golf activity reflects the trend most public course have experienced during this challenging time in the golf business.

As more people become familiar with the public option at Water’s Edge Golf Course, the participation and revenue numbers should increase due to the varied and affordable rates now available at the facility.

Water’s Edge, like the golf industry in general, has had several years of serious financial difficulty. In effort to reduce personnel costs, the commission continued to reduce part-time and full-time work hours on the golf course. In addition to the volunteer work force, the volunteer golf subcommittee (established 2008) met on a regular basis to support the staff on maintenance issues and long term course improvement projects. In 2010, the golf committee coordinated several course improvement projects. The committee conducted fundraisers supporting the removal several dead tree trees and heavy brush areas. They followed this effort with a tree replacement program which had an immediate impact on play and the appearance of the course. In addition to the support with maintenance issues, the committee help promote the course by meeting with community groups and developing promotional tools.

With the site being entirely public, the Township Board with Commission support has transformed Water’s Edge into the first ever public riverfront recreation area perfectly located to serve as the gateway to Grosse Ile from the Wayne County Bridge and the mainland. As new programs and services are developed and public opportunities expand in the coming years, this scenic location will continue to be a major hub for community events, recreation programs, sports and fitness activities and a key access point to the non-motorized linked greenways system both on and off the island.

In 2010, the golf professionals provided a range of services to the golfing community. The professionals provided golf lessons and programs for all age levels and abilities.

The lessons, leagues and programs included the following:

- Ten (10) Leagues (4-Women, 3-Men & 3-Mixed)
- Junior League
- Little Chippers (Pre School & Early Elementary Age)
- Golf 101 for Women Only
- Group Lessons for Beginners
- Junior Golf (2 Sessions)
- Junior Golf Championship
- Parent/Child Lesson Program
- Traditional Lesson Program

In 2010, Water’s Edge had 33 - Unlimited Season Pass Holders, 40 - Advantage Pass Holders, 145 - Option Pass Holders, 155 - Unlimited Pool Pass Holders.

In addition to golf, swimming lessons are popular and important at Water’s Edge. Instruction was provided for children in two consecutive, three-week programs followed by a one week advanced session. The swim lesson program was coordinated and supervised by a certified swim instructor. Aqua size and Aqua-Zumba classes were provided for adults. The past year, 289 students participated in swim lesson program. In addition to lessons, the department offered a competitive swim program for the fourth year in row. The competitive swim club had 32 participants. The department offered a lifeguarding class which had 5 participants.

Once again, the department demonstrated that Water's Edge is a true multi-purpose facility with the continuation of special events that were first introduced in 2006. On six summer evenings, residents of all ages again enjoyed the Riverfront Concert Series featuring variety of musical performers. In addition the concerts, Sharkey's Riverfront Tavern held several Car Cruises (Tuesday) and Bike Nights (Thursday) at Water's Edge.

The restaurant concessionaire, Sharkey's Riverfront Tavern, continued to increase their customer base by offering year round service for the fourth year in row. The Commission has been extremely pleased with the concessionaire's food and beverage service, their positive reputation and commitment they bring to the community at large.

### Services

On weekdays (Monday through Friday), the department operates a community van program for senior citizens, low-income residents and homebound individuals. The wheel chair lift continues to provide important service in transporting people with disabilities who live in the community. The van transported 519 residents during the year including 359 senior citizens and 160 people with disabilities. In addition to regular service, the department provided transportation to and from senior club meetings. Also, the department served as agent for the Wayne County Homebound Nutrition Program. The Meals-On-Wheels program operates five days per week and provides a needed service to homebound seniors. Throughout the past year, the department delivered hot meals to 36 different homes in the community. Once again, the Township Board made the van service possible by approving the use of funding through the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) and the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG).

Several community groups held activities (28) at the Centennial Farm recreation building. This facility provided support to many clubs and organizations (the Nature and Land Conservancy, Grosse Ile Soccer Association, Grosse Ile Youth and recreation Association, Herb Society, Garden Club, Girl and Boy Scouts...) that provide beneficial services to the community throughout the year. On the weekend of October 23, 2010, the Grosse Ile Educational Foundation held one of their two major annual fundraisers at the Centennial Farm. The evening event attracted hundreds of residents and their friends and raised needed funds for educational programs at the local schools. Several island families also utilized the recreation building for birthday parties, reunions, holiday functions, graduation parties, weddings and baby showers. The department continued to experience a strong demand for private rentals at the Centennial Farm Activity Center.

The department assisted the Grosse Ile Schools with their Carnival event which helped raise funds for new World Language Program. Assistance came in the form of set-up personnel and the use of tables and easels.

The “Channels” program guide continued to improve with a more attractive presentation and was mailed to residents two times during the year. The guide has been the primary method of informing residents of the department’s programs and services for twenty-three years. In addition to the guide, residents were updated on programs and services by email, the Internet, Facebook, Twitter and the Ile Camera newspaper. The department worked closely with G.I. Cable Television to promote activities and provide informational updates.

Departmental personnel provided regular field maintenance for the youth sports organizations. This included service to the Grosse Ile Youth Recreation Association (GIYRA) and the Grosse Ile Soccer Association (GISA). The department prepared 112 softball/baseball fields and approximately 50 soccer fields for play during 2010. In the fall, the department took over the lawn cutting maintenance for all the soccer fields at the Airport Recreation Area.

The department also supported GIYRA Youth Football Program by working cooperatively with the Grosse Ile Municipal Airport in establishing a land lease agreement for nine (9) acres. The youth association will utilize the area for football and cheer practices. The lease fee is \$1.00 per year.

The department continued to oversee the hanging and removal of banners along Macomb Street.

The department provided regular clerical and administrative support to the Festival Commission. The festival records are maintained at the recreation department along with equipment and supply items.

**Projects**

In 2010-2011, the department staff was responsible for the oversight and maintenance of five facilities. The upgrades and improvements are identified by location:

Farm

- Cleared heavy brush (south & west borders)
- Maintenance barn upgrades
- Butterfly garden (Garden Club)
- Fence painting (south border)
- Red Barn (Roof repairs & new shingles)

Water’s Edge

- Replaced seven (7) trees
- Installed signage at each tee box area
- Purchased rough mower
- Repaired two major irrigation leaks
- Expanded and improved walls on outdoor ice rink

Marina

- Installed boardwalk (300')
- Installed water line and electric (transient docks)
- Purchased & installed new pump-out

Playscape

- Annual application of wood sealant
- Painted lighthouse and dragon
- Major repairs to wood structures

Airport Recreation Area

- Extended off season lawn care
- Installed additional vehicular barriers
- Installed 10' bike path on eastern border

**Support**

Based on the tremendous success of the Marina and Golf Sub-Committees, the Community Recreation Commission created the Centennial Farm Sub-Committee in 2010. The new farm sub-committee will provide support with facility maintenance, safety and accessibility projects, communication with the public, and developing programs and services.

In October, the commission invited a local high school student to serve on the commission as a Youth Representative in a non-voting capacity. The Youth Representative will provide input and advice from a wide and diverse spectrum of youth on issues affecting and concerning the teen population. The commission will study options how the youth leadership experience through the new position might be enhanced by elevating the youth voice to a more formal level that includes voting.

The commission continued to play vital and supportive role with the important work performed by Open Space and Greenways Committee. A commission member continued to serve as a permanent liaison with the committee and helped prepare and complete a detailed study on potential sites for a non-motorized watercraft launch.

The department welcomed the new and highly energized Grosse Ile Equestrian Club in November. This community volunteer group will be working cooperatively with the department and the Luton Riding Academy to achieve the following mission:

- Provide equestrian-themed community recreation and education opportunities for area residents
- Support GI competitive equestrians
- Increase awareness of and participation in local equestrian programs
- Work in cooperation with the Centennial Farm Equestrian Center operator and Grosse Ile Recreation Department to facilitate stewardship of the equestrian facilities
- Raise awareness and assist with equine charities including horse rescue operations and/or therapeutic riding programs

The Recreation Department works cooperatively throughout the year with several community groups in providing services or achieving success on projects. Groups included the Grosse Alliance for the Arts, Military Gala Committee, Grosse Ile Senior Club, Macomb Street Businesses, Grosse Ile Herb Society, both Grosse Ile Garden Clubs, the VFW, the Boy and Girl Scouts, T.A.I.L.S., the Grosse Ile Historical Society, Grosse Ile Soccer Association, the Grosse Ile Youth Recreation Association, the Grosse Ile Rowing Club and the Grosse Ile Churches.

The facility support the department received from the Grosse Ile Township Schools was extremely valuable to the community. The school buildings have served as the core facilities for public recreation programs in the community. The school administration and staff continually demonstrate their commitment public recreation with ongoing support year after year. On occasion, school groups utilize the recreation building for school related programs that are permissible away from the schools sites.

As was the case in past years, there was strong inter-departmental cooperation within the overall Township operation. This cooperation between departments is beneficial in providing safe, efficient service to the residents. This teamwork was most evident at IslandFest time when personnel and resources are coordinated to produce a major event that showcases the civic pride of the community.

The Grosse Ile DPS and Airport staff provided tremendous support with park maintenance projects throughout community and at Centennial Farm.

**Message**

Program and service opportunities are endless with the tremendous assets available through Water’s Edge, the Centennial Farm, the Airport Recreation Area, schools and the variety of outdoor areas owned by the Township. The CRC will remain steadfast in building a strong future by following the desires and needs of the community that are represented as a clear guide in the Community Recreation Master Plan.

During the coming year, residents will be encouraged to continue providing input at monthly meetings of the Community Recreation Commission. In addition to the commission’s regular meetings, residents will be encouraged to visit the department at their leisure to see how the overall operation is progressing.

The Grosse Ile Community Recreation Department is a partner in  
**“Creating Community through People, Parks and Programs”**.

## 2011-2012 PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES

- Install new ADA parking lot at Water’s Edge Recreation facility
- Upgrade existing parking lot at the Water’s Edge Recreation Facility
- Negotiate and secure lease agreements with equestrian center and restaurant operators
- Continue maintenance program for restaurant/pro shop building (stained wood siding & repair rock & mortar)
- Paint Water’s Edge bathhouse and improve accessibility in pool area
- Level golf course tees on # 2, # 7, & # 9
- Improve sponsorship program to benefit facility and program improvements
- Partner with community sponsor to secure resources to build gazebo at the Centennial Farm
- Identify Centennial Farm community garden site and develop guidelines
- Identify non-motorized watercraft launch site
- Support bike path improvements along Horsemill from Meridian to Parke Lane
- Seek grant opportunities and begin development of inline skating & ice rink
- Continue to make safety and maintenance upgrades at pool, marina, golf course and driving range.
- Continue expansion of volunteer program and improve effectiveness of individual volunteer services
- Continue to implement technological upgrades with focus on marketing through the internet and email promotions
- Continue special event programming with emphasis on the pool and riverfront
- Work with Centennial Farm Sub-Committee, the Grosse Ile Equestrian Club and equestrian operator to improve maintenance of facilities and program opportunities at the farm
- Continue to provide administrative and clerical support to the Festival Commission.
- Partner with Grosse Ile Nature and Land Conservancy in the development of outdoor educational programs that focus on Grosse Ile and the Detroit River.
- Work with school personnel and community groups to expand program opportunities for children.
- Work cooperatively with the GIYRA and GISA to improve facilities and program opportunities for the youth in the community
- Develop sub-committee for improvement and expansion of programs and services for senior citizens

**Recreation Department  
2010-2011 Programs, Participation & Usage**

**Youth Programs**

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Family Events         | 407        |
| Preschool Activities  | 189        |
| School Age Enrichment | 283        |
| Summer Camps          | <u>210</u> |
|                       | 1089       |

**Adult Programs**

|            |     |
|------------|-----|
| Enrichment | 184 |
|------------|-----|

**Teen Programs**

|                                                      |           |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Basketball | 31        |
| Enrichment Programs                                  | <u>50</u> |
|                                                      | 81        |

**Sports & Fitness**

|                            |           |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Aerobics/ Exercise Classes | 231       |
| Morning Walk Seasonal      | 15        |
| Daily                      | 4         |
| Sand Volleyball Leagues    | 24        |
| Tae Kwon Do Programs       | <u>68</u> |
|                            | 342       |

**Senior Programs**

|                              |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Enrichment / Special Events  | 315       |
| Meals on Wheels (year round) | 36        |
| Van Transportation           | 519       |
| Travel Program               | 35        |
| Downriver Senior Olympics    | 33        |
| Fitness                      | <u>77</u> |
|                              | 1015      |

**Water's Edge**

|                             |           |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Advantage Pass Holders      | 40        |
| Junior Golf                 | 25        |
| Lifeguarding Course         | 5         |
| Little Chippers             | 30        |
| Option Pass Holders         | 145       |
| Riverfront Concerts         | 1105      |
| Summer Dockage              | 53        |
| Swim Club                   | 32        |
| Swim Lessons                | 289       |
| Transient Dockage           | 42        |
| Unlimited Golf Pass Holders | 33        |
| Unlimited Pool Pass Holders | 155       |
| Winter Storage 09-10        | 62        |
| Youth Tournament            | <u>30</u> |
|                             | 2046      |

**Township Equestrian Center**

|                                   |           |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Tours (Walk Throughs 4,000)       | 100       |
| Boarders                          | 20        |
| Students (Lesson Program)         | 175       |
| Boy Scouts/ Girl Scouts           | 93        |
| Winter Practice Show I and II     | 325       |
| 3-Day Camps                       | 20        |
| *Fall Harvest Day (Support Staff) |           |
| *Easter Event (Support Staff)     |           |
| Adult Enrichment Lessons          | <u>50</u> |
|                                   | 783       |

**Special Events**

|                      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Breakfast with Santa | 111          |
| *Easter Event        | 230          |
| *Fall Harvest Day    | 625          |
| Hurray for Halloween | 650          |
| Island Glow          | 550          |
| IslandFest           | <u>12000</u> |
|                      | 14166        |

**Support Services**

|                                 |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Amusement Park Ticket Program   | 109 |
| Festival Support                |     |
| Inaugural Veterans Gala         |     |
| Informational Services          |     |
| IslandFest & Island Glow        |     |
| Maintenance-Youth Sports Assoc. | 700 |
| Playscape Maintenance           |     |
| Rowing-Van/Insurance/Membership |     |
| Senior Alliance                 | 71  |
| Transportation of Equipment     |     |
|                                 | 880 |

**Community Group Usage of Centennial Farm**

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Anderdon Nation                  |  |
| Boy/Cub Scouts                   |  |
| Building Blocks                  |  |
| Downriver Swat Team              |  |
| Downriver Compassion Club        |  |
| Election Poll Site               |  |
| Evening Garden Club              |  |
| G.I Education Foundation         |  |
| G.I. Herb Society                |  |
| G.I. Historical Society          |  |
| G.I. Nature and Land Conservancy |  |
| G.I. Senior Club                 |  |
| G.I. Soccer                      |  |

C O R D O N - H I L L S - R I V E R F R O N T

**Recreation Department  
2010-2011 Programs, Participation & Usage**

**Community Group Usage of Centennial Farm (Continued)**

- G.I. Twp. Schools
- G.I. Volleyball
- Girl Scouts
- GIYRA Baseball, Basketball, Football
- Island Co-Op
- Kiddie Kampus
- Nature and Land Conservancy
- Obedience Dynamics LLC
- Police Department
- Rentals (43)
- SWCCC Meeting
- T.A.I.L.S.
- T.E.A.C.H.
- West River Yacht and Cruising Club
- Questers

**6,155.00          Grand Total: 26,741**

C O M M U N I T Y R E C R E A T I O N D E P A R T M E N T

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*The goal of the Communications Commission is to provide broadcasting of Township Board, Planning Commission, School Board and any other commission meeting the Township Board deems necessary, as well as taping and replaying selected programs to viewers of both the municipal channel ( GITV) and the School Channel. In addition, the Communications Commission works with its cable providers and the Township Board to further enhance cable television services and products for the citizens of Grosse Ile Township in a positive manner.*

- ☞ Three Cable providers continue to operate on Grosse Ile under the 2006 Michigan Cable Ordinance. Comcast, Wide Open West and AT&T all provide cable, phone and internet service.
- ☞ The name of the commission was official changed from Cable to Communications to more accurately reflect the work of the Commission.
- ☞ The oversight of the Grosse Ile Township web page was officially turned over to the Communications Commission.
- ☞ Darryl Froehlich continued to be the Chairman of the Communications Commission
- ☞ Lauren Murphy was appointed to the Communications Commission. Robert Buckley resigned from the Communications Commission after 15 years of service.
- ☞ GITV continued to provide coverage of municipal meetings. GITV now tapes and cablecasts the Township Board and Planning Commission meetings, the Airport and Brownfield meeting, the ZBA and DPW meetings as well as Communications, Recreation , Islandfest and Open Space meetings.
- ☞ The Communications Department, partnered with Granicus Corp, to provide video archiving and streaming video.
- ☞ GITV worked with the Historical Society on a number of projects, including a well received program promoting the Christmas Boutique.
- ☞ Once again GITV televised GIYRA football and high school sports.
- ☞ GITV rebuild the GITV production truck under the design and workmanship of GITV intern Christopher Swart.
- ☞ GITV produced a special documentation of the Veterans Gala including interviews with WWII veterans.
- ☞ GITV sponsored 2 film contests call “Film Frenzy” to promote film making for young people on the Island. Over 30 kids took part in the program.
- ☞ Fourteen hours of “live TV” were produced during the Islandfest.
- ☞ GITV once again taped all the grade school, middle school and high school concerts, plays and ceremonies as requested by the individual schools; sporting events continued to be covered by GITV.
- ☞ Other events covered by GITV included Concerts on the Commons and the Water’s Edge Concert series, and the Halloween Parade, Brunch with Santa, and the Farmers Market on the Commons.

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**Mission Statement**

A community-oriented and controlled organization that is safe, financially self-supporting and environmentally conscious. The Airport’s purpose is for use by aircraft that do not contribute to a noise level, which is considered unacceptable to the community.

**Service Statement**

The Airport Commerce Park Commission, within the framework of the mission statement, is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Airport and Commerce Park. The Airport Commerce Park Commission oversees the Airport and Commerce Park and related facilities including all t-hangars, runways/taxiways, fuel farm operations, commercial and industrial buildings of the Airport and Commerce Park, and a total of 626 acres of property, 91 of which are zoned light industrial. This all-volunteer commission ensures that the Airfield and Commerce Park operates in a safe and fiscally prudent manner.

The Airport Advisory Committee (AAC), within the framework of the mission statement, advises the Airport Commerce Park Commission, Airport Manager, and Township Board on airport-related issues. Examples of such issues include technical, safety, and security-related items. The AAC provides much needed assistance with the coordination and execution of special events and activities associated with the Airport. Comprised entirely of volunteers, the AAC works with the Airport Commerce Park Commission to attract aviation-related businesses and promote the airfield within the aviation community.

**2011-2012 Budget**

|               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| Airfield      | \$ 411,030 |
| Fuel Farm     | \$ 20,658  |
| Commerce Park | \$ 247,882 |
| Tennis Club   | \$ 60,000  |
| Total:        | \$ 739,570 |

**History**

The Airport has seen many changes on the island since its inception in 1926, when the Aircraft Development Corporation constructed the first building and landing area on what is now the Airport. Due in part to the activity of the Aircraft Development Corporation, the Navy Reserve Aviation Unit started operations with the construction of a seaplane base in 1927. By 1929, the seaplane base was ready for operation and the official dedication as a U.S. Naval Reserve Aviation Base took place on September 7. The Airport was operated in this capacity until the commencement of World War II.

On December 9, 1942, the official designation was changed to U.S. Naval Air Station, Grosse Ile. The U.S. Navy continued to operate the base until the closure in September, 1969. The air station was transferred from the U.S. Government to the Township of Grosse Ile on December 3, 1970, via a quit claim deed. The Township operates the Airport in the “general utility” category as a public benefit to the local communities and the flying public.

In addition to the Airport, the U.S. Government transferred to the Township the property north of Groh Road, now known as the Grosse Ile Commerce Park, as a revenue enhancement area. With the support of the Commerce Park, the Airport is one of a few general aviation airports in the country that is fiscally self-sustaining.

**2010/2011 Accomplishments**

The Airport/Commerce Park accomplished much in fiscal year 2010-2011.

The following are only the highlights:

- Installed new fencing and repaired existing fencing and gates via an FAA grant with a nominal 2.5% local share amount.
- Attracted a variety of new tenants to the Airfield/Commerce Park including the following:
  - \* United States Customs and Border Protection
  - \* The expansion of Millennium Digital Technologies in Hangar 2
  - \* Extended Dave’s Hot Rod Garage management agreement for Building 63 heated storage
  - \* Facilitated the establishment of a new FBO- Millennium Aviation
  - \* Completed renovations of building 61/62 and Hangar 2 to attract tenants to both facilities
- Completed the selection process for airport engineering services.
- Developed a new Grosse Ile Airport website

**2010/2011 Events**

- Hosted the annual IslandFest event
- Hosted the third annual NASGI Duathlon
- Hosted the annual Michigan Jets event
- Great Lakes Aviation Expo participant
- Held the first annual Grosse Ile Boat Show
- Hosted the first annual Veterans Gala
- Hosted filming of scenes from the upcoming movie “Real Steel,” and various television commercials and photography for print advertising

**2011-2012 Goals**

**Commerce Park:**

- Actively market buildings 61/62 and 63 to retain a long term tenant for both facilities
- Facilitate Commerce Park building improvements by negotiating effective lease agreements with tenants allowing for private investment in Airport/Commerce Park facilities
- Continue to market the Airport/Commerce Park to new users and implement business retention efforts
- Continue to utilize the Airport/Commerce Park Master Plan to spur business development and marketing/promotion efforts

**Airport:**

- Continue to utilize the Airport/Commerce Park Master Plan to spur business development and marketing/promotion efforts
- Complete scheduled airport lighting engineering work and joint installation project on Taxiway “A”
- Work on the redevelopment and renovation of Hangar 1, east side
- Actively market Grosse Ile Municipal Airport to the aviation community in an attempt to attract private aircraft owners and business to the airfield

**2011/2012 Events**

- Annual IslandFest event
- Fourth annual NASGI Duathlon
- Annual Michigan Jets event
- Great Lakes Aviation Expo
- Second Grosse Ile Boat Show
- Second annual Veterans Gala

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**Mission Statement:**

The major responsibilities of the Grosse Ile Public Services Department are providing Grosse Ile residents with safe drinking water through the water distribution system, removal of solid waste via contract operation and the operation of the sanitary sewage collection system.

**Service Statement:**

The Department of Public Services maintains over sixty-five miles of water main and fifty-eight miles of sewer system that, according to the estimated December 31, 2010 Census (SEMCOG), serves 10,491 residents. The department responds promptly to water main breaks to insure the least amount of disruption in service to Island residents. Our commitment is to serve the needs of the community with the dedication and professionalism the residents deserve and have come to expect.

In addition to maintaining the water and sewer system, the Department of Public Services maintains the bike paths throughout the township in regards to mowing, sweeping and cleaning and winter maintenance. The DPS is the overseer on gravel roads for dust control in dry weather season and for crack sealing of roads; ice and snow removal of Township properties; storm water management; drainage maintenance and the department oversees the operations of the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

**History:**

The Public Works Board was formed in the 1930's as a Water Board and it progressed to a Public Works Board in 1936. In 1965 bonds for the original water project were satisfied. The same year, absorption into the Township was accomplished, effectively converting the enterprise into a Commission under the authority of the Township Board.

Refuse pickup on Grosse Ile Began as "homeowner initiated" with each homeowner responsible for his own trash disposal. Refuse pickup evolved to contract operations with services managed and directed by the Township. Recycling has progressed from a small recycling site behind the former Township Hall on Macomb Street to curbside pickup in 1995. Also in 1995, in accordance with Michigan law, Grosse Ile Township began picking up seasonal yard waste. After collection, all yard waste must be taken to a facility where it is composted and later used for topsoil.

**2009-2010 Accomplishments**

**Water:**

The DPS responded to 49 water main breaks from January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010. The number of water main breaks we have each year will vary but as old water mains are replaced with new, the number of main breaks each year should decline over time. You cannot predict if or when water main breaks will occur. The department also completed their water main flushing, which is done once in the spring and once in the fall.

**Sewer:**

Smoke testing of the sanitary sewer system was completed in the fall. A program is underway to make repairs where storm water is getting into the sanitary systems as part of a rehabilitation of the old system. This project is still ongoing.

**Refuse:**

Waste Management, Inc. is in the fourth-year of a five-year contract, which they assumed responsibilities for when they purchased Capital Waste, Inc., for residential and municipal waste collection and hauling for Grosse Ile Township. In the last year we hauled to the landfill 3,785 tons of trash, which was down approximately 1.85% from the previous year. Yard waste continues to be collected from April 1<sup>st</sup> to November 30<sup>th</sup> each year. We also supported several Household Hazardous Waste days, which were held at the City of Taylor's DPW and at the City of Riverview's Land Preserve.

Wayne County continues to sponsor several Household Hazardous Waste Days in various cities. These dates and locations will continue to be published on GITV and the Township's webpage. We are expecting to continue to participate in these events during the upcoming fiscal year.

**Waste Water Treatment Plant:**

The sewer system was added to Grosse Ile after the basic water line system installation was completed. The construction of the original sewer system was initially placed under the control of Wayne County as a drainage district. Following several years of service, in 1987 the Township Board determined that the operation of the sewer system could be run more efficiently under Township management. United Water (formerly Earth Tech), a contract operations firm, was hired by the Township to manage the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Formerly known as Williams & Works, United Water continues to operate the sewage treatment facility under Township direction.

The following project is currently in progress for the Wastewater Treatment Plant:

- Replacement of Bearing for RBC's

**Roads:**

Dust control applications were applied to the gravel roads during the dry season last year. Dust control will continue for the 2011 summer season, but as funds diminish applications could be fewer.

**Bike Paths:**

There is a new bike path proposed on Horsemill between Meridian and Parke Lane.

**2010-2011 Goals and Objectives:**

- West River Road at Westcroft Gardens will be repaired this year as part of a drainage project that will improve safety in that area.
- Continue rehabilitation on our old sanitary sewer interceptor
- Replace the water main on East River between Ferry and Horsemill
- Continue to provide quality drinking water to Grosse Ile residents.

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The Island Beautification Committee has been in existence since 1975. Its mission is to promote litter abatement and to enhance the beauty of our Island Community through hands-on beautification efforts. Focusing on man’s additions to the natural beauty of Grosse Ile’s environment puts the finishing touches to a God given gem.

The committee is a hands-on, high human energy, low budget, nine member committee which takes pride in helping to motivate others by example. The committee cooperates with the township commissions, committees and service organizations. The committee also accepts assignments and responsibilities as requested by the Township Board of Trustees.

**Entryway Signs**

Grosse Ile has two entryway signs, one on Grosse Ile Parkway east of the County Bridge and the other at the southeast corner of the intersection of Bridge and Meridian Roads. The signs were designed and installed by the Island Beautification Committee in December, 1991. The signs were made by Townsend Neon Sign Company. The IBC maintains the signs and the sites. Maintenance includes caring for the flowering beds. It involves planting annuals each spring, weeding, deadheading, hoeing, fertilizing, spraying for insect control, regarding and edging the beds throughout the growing season. It also includes watering the plants at the north end as needed. The south entryway sign is watered automatically by the watering system that is operated by a timer and the same sprinkler system that waters the whole landscaped areas between Grosse Ile Parkway and the Water’s Edge Golf Course. Maintenance also includes washing the signs with soap and water. When the need arises the IBC contracts professionals to repaint the signs. Photocell and bulb replacement at the south entryway sign is also done by the IBC as needed. Various decorations are placed at the signs in accord with the seasons to add attractiveness. At the end of the growing season the dead plants are removed to improve the appearance.

**Entryway Flower Beds** (Connector of West River Road to Grosse Ile Parkway)

There are two flower beds in the landscaped median south and parallel to Grosse Ile Parkway. The east flower bed is maintained by the IBC. The west flower bed is maintained by the Grosse Ile Noon Garden Club. The entire landscaped area including the flower beds has an underground watering system and sprinkling is done automatically.

The maintenance includes planting annuals and grasses each spring. It includes fertilizing, deadheading and insect control if needed. Maintenance also includes weeding, hoeing, trimming and overseeing the garden throughout the growing season.

At the end of the season dead plants are removed to enhance the appearance over the winter period.



A total of 401 birds and 100 mammals were counted. Nine sites were surveyed. The average sighting per site was 60. In 2008, a total of 517 birds and 79 mammals were counted, for a total of 596 in 11 sites or 54 sightings per site.

In the 2010 survey there was a significant increase in mammals, that is 100 in 2010 and 74 in 2009. In 2010, 8 more deer were sighted than in 2009. In 2010, 5 more black squirrels were sighted than in 2009 and 10 more fox squirrels were sighted than in 2009.

Caution is required when you review these statistics because the survey is not statistically reliable, it is just an indicator.

**Beautification Awards - Macomb Street Businesses**

The IBC conducted its annual awards program again in 2010. It is an evaluation of beautification efforts and results surveying all Macomb Street business sites twice, once during the period of IslandFest and a second time during Labor Day week. The results of the two periods are averaged and the winners are those with the highest scores. The 2010 winners were as follows:

- |                              |                             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1st Place Gold Certificate   | Bishop’s Cottage            |
| 2nd Place Silver Certificate | Grosse Ile Hardware         |
| 3rd Place Bronze Certificate | Island Woods Senior Housing |

Five sites were awarded certificates in recognition of concerted efforts to improve beautification. They were: Grosse Ile Chiropractic, VFW Post 7310, Rapunzel’s Tower, Island Animal Clinic and Vitale’s Restaurant. A congratulatory ad was placed in the Ile Camera to publicize the winners and to recognize them for having helped to make a noticeable difference in site appearance.

**Island Litter Abatement**

The primary goal of the IBC is litter abatement. It does not take much more than elbow grease to keep our community litter free. This includes our yards, streets, paths and by-ways. During the 37 years of existence the greatest achievement that the IBC has accomplished is the noticeable reduction in litter island wide. The IBC places drums in specific locations on the bike path and other sites for convenience to make it easy to deposit trash.

The committee thanks all residents, and most especially those who make an effort and pick up trash discarded by others and place it in the drums. These citizens all help to keep our community litter free, one more reason to make us all proud.

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**Status of 2010 – 2011 Objectives**

- Complete negotiations, and purchase parcels of vacant land listed on the Open Space Evaluation.
- Achieved. Three parcels were purchased adding three acres to be protected under the Open Space Program. 68 acres are now in the review process.
- Complete a professional review of selected Open Space Properties to confirm correct methods of maintaining their natural beauty.
- Not Achieved. Quotes were received from two sources. The Committee concluded they did not meet the objectives of the request, and were too costly.
- Improve communication and collaborative efforts with the Township Board, Commissions and all Island committees regarding the Open Space Program.
- Achieved Articles were prepared for the Ile Camera. Meetings were held with the Township Board.
- Liaisons from the Recreation Commission and Conservancy regularly attend Open Space meetings. An Open Space Forum was conducted for all residents on January 21<sup>st</sup> 2011.
- Organize and conduct two “Dump The Junk Find a Treasure” events for residents one in the spring and one in the fall.
- Achieved. Two events were held. One in May and one in October.
- Continue efforts to improve the appearance of Open Spaces that are highly visible to public areas.
- Achieved The Wendell Court Open Space property adjacent to new side walk was cleared to improve appearance and provide safe pedestrian travel. The Loma Circle Open Space area was improved. A total of 510 trees were removed from Open Spaces and other Township land. \$28,240 was spent to maintain Open Spaces and conduct two Dump the Junk programs.
- Benchmark Open Space programs in other communities to determine best practices for possible adoption into our program.
- Not Achieved. Other pressing issues precluded completing this action.

**Other Accomplishments not included in Original Goals**

- Completed analysis of possible sites for a non powered boat launch and presented same to the Recreation Commission. Members of the Open Space Committee and the Liaison from the Recreation Department reviewed seven possible locations and recommended a probable site...
- Completed analysis of Township owned vacant property not protected under Open Space Program. This analysis was requested by the Township Supervisor and the Township Board as part of the GIBC litigation issue

**2011 – 2012 Objectives**

- Review and implement suggestions outlined in the January 21<sup>st</sup> Open Space Forum
- Purchase at least 10 acres of privately owned vacant property
- Conduct another Open Space Forum for Island residents
- Address the need to renew the Procurement Millage for Open Space Program
- Improve our surveillance practices via our Overseer Program given the acquisition of vacant Township property and the need to properly maintain trails
- Conduct two Dump the Junk Find a Treasure Events

**GREENWAYS/OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE**

(April 1 Appointment)

**At-Large Members**

|                                |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| <b>Cliff St. Pierre, Chair</b> | 09-12 |
| Rosanne Ellison                | 10-13 |
| Woody Clark                    | 10-13 |
| Joe Esordi                     | 08-11 |

Pat Selby (GINLC)  
 Margerite Hasserrodt (GINLC) 08-11

**Island Beautification Reps.**

|               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| Art Koester   | 10-13 |
| Pamela Frucci | 10-13 |

**Number of Meetings:** The Commission conducted six regular meetings during the year, which exceeds the minimum required by the Michigan Planning Enabling Act (four).

**Development Reviews:** Under the Michigan Planning Enabling Act and the Township Zoning Ordinance, the Planning Commission is given the task of reviewing development activities impacting the Township and its residents. During 2010 the Commission reviewed the following four proposals (as opposed to only one in 2009):

**Ordinances:** The Commission worked on a number of amendments to the Zoning

| Project Type            | Location                    | Description                                                                                           | Status                                 | Date                  |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sketch Plan Review      | 23370 Golfview              | Request for a 1.5% increase in the allowable Lot Coverage Ratio (LCR)                                 | Approved                               | April 5 <sup>th</sup> |
| Natural Feature Setback | 28108 Swan Island           | Request to encroach into the required NFS for the construction of a pool                              | Approved                               | April 5 <sup>th</sup> |
| Lot Split               | 20570 and 20546 Canal Drive | Request for a lot reconfiguration (simultaneous split and combination) of two adjacent parcels        | Recommended approval to Township Board | May 17 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Lot Split               | 21005 West River            | Request for a lot reconfiguration (simultaneous split and combination) amongst three adjacent parcels | Recommended approval to Township Board | July 19 <sup>th</sup> |

**Ordinances:** The Commission worked on a number of amendments to the Zoning Ordinance and Municipal Code in an effort to refine and keep all ordinances current. Specifically, alternative energy regulations and updates to conflicting regulations and Zoning Board of Appeals procedures were adopted in the Zoning Ordinance.

Additionally, a Community Impact Assessment Ordinance was adopted into the Municipal Code for large scale projects, or those with the potential to greatly impact the Township and its residents. Such projects will require review for their potential impacts upon: transportation conditions, utilities and public services, and the costs of community services.

A number of other amendments were drafted, but not yet adopted. Completion of these items is anticipated for completion in 2011.

**Study Sessions:** In addition to action items, the Commission also conducted study sessions on a variety of topics, including:

- An overview of the Zoning Ordinance;
- Items not addressed in the Zoning Ordinance;
- Michigan’s Complete Streets legislation;
- The Michigan Medical Marihuana Act; and
- Review of potential site locations for a community sign board.

**Case Reviews:**

Unlike the preceding two years, the number of cases heard by the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) decreased in 2010.

The ZBA conducted four regular meetings, during which only three applications were considered (compared to eleven in 2009).

The table below is an overview of the cases decided by the ZBA:

| Case # | Location          | Variance Request                                             | Action                         | Date                      |
|--------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 10-001 | 28108 Swan Island | Installation of fencing in a waterfront yard                 | Approved                       | February 23 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 10-002 | 8900 Macomb       | Exceed maximum allowable sign area in a commercial district  | Approved with conditions       | August 24 <sup>th</sup>   |
| 10-003 | 21228 East River  | Side yard setback variance for a detached accessory building | Request withdrawn by applicant | October 20 <sup>th</sup>  |

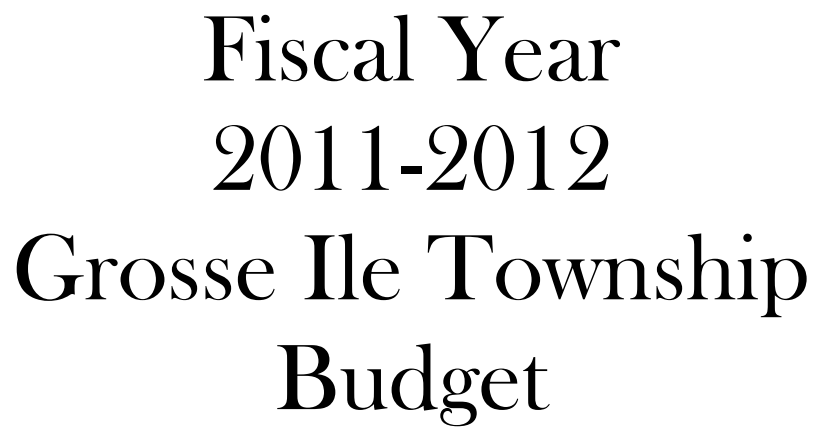
**Decision Making:**

Properly executed fact-finding, motion making, and voting ensure that the public record is made accurately and consistently. After all is said during the public hearing, ZBA members must separate facts from opinions and use the facts to determine if a practical difficulty exists in accordance with the Township Zoning Ordinance, Michigan statute and case law. Sound decision making ensures that applicants are treated equally and the public record is sufficient to explain their actions.

The public record is also very important, as ZBA decisions can only be appealed to Circuit Court. If a ZBA decision is appealed, the Court relies on the public record kept by the Township to determine if the decision:

- Complies with Michigan’s constitution and laws;
- Is based upon proper procedure;
- Is supported by competent material and substantial evidence on the record; and
- Represents the reasonable exercise of discretion granted by law to the board of appeals.

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Fiscal Year  
2011-2012  
Grosse Ile Township  
Budget